Rangeland Health Evaluation Summary Worksheet

NM-RFO-RHA-2012-0003

Part 1. Area of Interest Documentation

Observation Date: 9/13/2012 Fiscal Year: 2012	RHA Type: Grazing Unit 62086, El Yeso Ranch				
State: New Mexico Field Office: Roswell Field Office	Legal Location: T1S, R21E, Sec.				
Watershed Name:	Major Land Resource Area:				
Geographic Work Area:	Ecological Range Site: Loamy				
Pasture Name:	Study Name and #: -				
Observer(s): Helen Miller, Emily Peterson	Size of Evaluation Area: Photos Taken				
Soil/Site V	erification ————————————————————————————————————				
Map Unit Name: 68, Poquita very fine sandy loam, 0 to 5 per					
Parent Material: redbed eolian and alluvium derived fr	om sandstone and shale				
Soils Series: Poquita	List Diagnostic horizons in profile and depth				
Surface Texture: very fine sandy loam	 A1 - 0 - 2 in, reddish brown (5YR 5/4) very fine sandy loam, reddish brown (5YR 4/4) moist; weak medium platy structure; soft, very friable, nonsticky and slightly plastic; many very fine and fine roots; many very fine tubular pores; slightly alkaline (pH 7.6); abrupt smooth boundary. (2 to 5 inches thick) A2 - 2 - 6 in, yellowish red (5YR 5/6) loam, yellowish red (5YR 4/6) moist; moderate medium subangular blocky structure; slightly hard, very friable, slightly sticky and slightly plastic; many very fine and fine roots; many very fine tubular pores; slightly effervescent; slightly alkaline; abrupt smooth boundary. (3 to 7 inches thick) 				
Depth: Moderate, 20" - 40"					
Topographic Position: uplands					
Avg. Annual Precip: 12.75 Aspect:					
Recent Weather: Drought Elevation:					
Soils Series Description:	 Bw - 6 - 15 in, reddish yellow (5YR 6/6) clay loam, yellowish red (5YR 5/6) moist; moderate medium subangular blocky structure; hard, firm, sticky and plastic; common very fine and fine roots; many very fine tubular pores; strongly effervescent; slightly alkaline; clear smooth boundary. (5 to 18 inches thick) 				

- Bk1 15 24 in, reddish yellow (5YR 6/8) clay loam, yellowish red (5YR 5/8) moist; moderate medium subangular blocky structure; hard, firm, sticky and plastic; common very fine and fine roots; many very fine tubular pores; common fine masses of calcium carbonate; strongly effervescent; moderately alkaline; clear smooth boundary. (8 to 15 inches thick)
- Bk2 24 53 in, light red (2.5YR 6/6) clay loam, red (2.5YR 4/6) moist; massive; hard, firm, sticky and plastic; common very fine roots; many very fine tubular pores; common fine masses of calcium carbonate; strongly effervescent; slightly alkaline; clear smooth boundary. (11 to 29 inches thick)
- 2Bk3 53 60 in, light red (2.5YR 6/6) loamy fine sand, red (2.5YR 4/6) moist; massive; slightly hard, very friable, nonsticky and nonplastic; few very fine roots; many very fine pores; few fine masses of calcium carbonate; strongly effervescent; moderately alkaline.

The Poquita series consists of very deep, well drained, moderately permeable soils that formed in calcareous alluvium derived from "redbed" formations. Slopes range from 0 to 5 percent. Well drained. Permeability is moderate. Runoff is negligible on slopes less than 1 percent and very low on 1 to 5 percent slopes.

Recent Weather Additional Notes:

Drought last 2 years.

Pierce and Burkhardt provided the field work on this RHA.

Wildlife and Livestock Description:

No additional Comments

Off Site Influence Description:

No additional Comments

Additional Notes:

No additional Comments

Part 2. Indicator Rating							
		Departure from Ecological Site Description/ Ecological Reference Area(s)					
Attribute	Indicators	Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight	
S,H	1. Rills					✓	
Comments:							
S,H	2. Water Flow Patterns				✓		
Comments:	as expected with slight evidence of errosion						
S,H	3. Pedestals and/or Terracettes					✓	
Comments:							
S,H	4. Bare Ground				✓		
Comments:	as expected						
S,H	5. Gullies				✓		
Comments:							
S	6. Wind-Scoured, Blowouts, and/or Deposition Area					✓	
Comments:							
Н	7. Litter Movement				✓		
Comments:	more litter due to drought						
S,H,B	8. Soil Surface Resistance to Erosion					✓	
Comments:							
S,H,B	9. Soils Surface Loss or Degradation					✓	
Comments:							
Н	10. Plant Community Composition and Distributio					✓	
Comments:							
S,H,B	11. Compaction Layer					✓	
Comments:							
В	12. Functional/Structural Groups					•	
Comments:							
В	13. Plant Mortality/Decadence				✓		
Comments:	drought and grazing leaves little grasses						

Н,В	14. Litter Amount		✓	
Comments:				
В	15. Annual Production			•
Comments:				
В	16. Invasive Plants		✓	
Comments:	as expected, mesquite is present			
В	17. Reproductive Capability of Perennial Plants			•
Comments:				

Part 2. I	ndicator Rating						
		Departure from Ecological Site Description/ Ecological Reference Area(s)					
Attribute	Indicators	Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight	
В	18. Wildlife Habitat					✓	
Comments:							
В	19. Wildlife Populations					•	
Comments:							
В	20. Special Status Species Habitat					•	
Comments:							
В	21. Special Status Species Populations					✓	
Comments:	mesquite invasion has caused less grass and more bar	e ground					

Part 3. Summary

A. Indicator Summary-Each of the indicators are associated with the one or more of the attributes below. An indicator is placed in a category (columns) above and summed for each of the Standard Attributes.

	Standard Attributes	Extreme	Moderate to Extreme	Moderate	Slight to Moderate	None to Slight	Total Attributes
S	Soil/Site Stability (Indicators 1-6, 8, 9 11)	0	0	0	3	6	9
Н	Hydrologic Function (Indicators 1-5, 7-11 14)	0	0	0	5	6	11
В	Biotic Integrity (Indicators 8-9, 11-21)	0	0	0	3	10	13

Part 3. Summary

B. Attribute Summary - In this table, the Extreme and Moderate to Extreme columns in the table above are merged to form the "Does Not Meet" column, Moderate becomes "May Need More Info". Slight to Moderate and None to Slight merge to form the "Meets" columns. Values from the table above are summarized below. Space is provided for rationale of the determination. This space should most certainly be used when the determination by the ID team conflicts with the summarized values. Provide the sources of information that lead to the determination. X out the appropriate box for each attribute to denote final agreed upon determination by the ID team.

Attribute	Does Not Meet	May Need More Info.	Meets
Soil/Site Stability Rationale: No additional Comments			•
Hydrologic Function Rationale: No additional Comments			•
Biotic Integrity Rationale: No additional Comments			•
Overall Rangeland Health Assessment:	Does Not Meet	May Need More Info.	Meets
No additional Comments			✓